

*David Charles'*

# Boston Vintage Sports Flashback

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DECEMBER 21, 1972

## RELENTLESS BRUINS RIP WINGS, 8-1

By Tom Fitzgerald, The Boston Globe

It took the Bruins' big gunners a while to get on target last night, so a couple of the less frequently an 8-1 breeze over the Detroit Red Wings at the Garden, successful marksmen supplied the impetus that led to.

It was an encouraging progression into a big finish that gave the Boston team its 15th win in a sequence of 17 games that includes one tie and one loss.

The challenge in the East Division was fortified also as the Bruins moved up to within one point of first-place Montreal and assumed second position all alone as the Rangers lost to Atlanta in New York.

There was no appearance of certainty among the Stanley Cup champions for quite a while after Mickey Redmond popped home a Detroit goal in the first minute.

The Bruins didn't even get a shot on Andy Brown, a bare-faced goalie, until the offensive futility was broken at 7:54 by Terry O'Reilly, who connected for his second goal of the season and his first since Oct. 29.

It stayed close until the second period, and then Ace Bailey busted through for a backhand finish of his own rebound while killing a penalty at 1:06. It was Ace's first goal in 17 games.

Johnny Bucyk capitalized on a power play later in the second and there was a five-goal outburst in the third, two each by Ken Hodge and Mike Walton and another by Phil Esposito, somewhat amused by what he considered an unexpected opportunity.

"A good effort," said coach Tom Johnson, "but it took us a while. That goal by Bailey was very important. And we got exceptional goaltending from John Adams. He gets more confident each time he plays."

You really couldn't fault the younger of the Bruin goalies too much on the one that got by him, because there was a little breakdown with at least one unusual culprit.

Al Karlander sent the puck off the boards to clear and old Alex Delvecchio got to it before Bobby Orr, who subsequently sat out much of the third period because of a touch of the flu.

Delvecchio had a two-on-one, and as Dallas Smith made his move, Alex passed to Redmond, who had a good opening for his quick shot.

"Some goaltending when the first shots beat both of us," Adamd kidded himself. "The way the guys went later, some of it was easy. But I had a good one on Collins late in the first and there were some of those troublesome times with scrambles in

front."

Freddie O'Donnell made a strong play for the first Boston goal. It was Freddie's first shift on left wing and he went in with Gregg Sheppard as Redmond hung on him.

"I still have some trouble breaking in on that side," O'Donnell said. "I had the puck on my back hand and when I got it out, Terry had a real quick finish."

"Actually," O'Reilly admitted, "I was coming late and just went in when Freddie was spinning."

It was an Orr rush with a pass to Smith that set up the other goal. Brown stopped a first shot by Dallas, but after his first try, Bailey swept through the second rebound.

Walton whipped a bad angle shot off the goalie's stick early in the third, and then Hodge hit twice in a couple of minutes to give the big right-winger a stretch of 11 goals in 10 games.

On the first one, Ken took the puck from a defenseman's skate off an Esposito pass. And the next one, he had a whirlaround shot.

Hodge surprised Esposito when he passed up a hat trick opportunity, passing instead to Phil who had the whole left side of the net. Later, Walton capitalized on an O'Donnell rebound.

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DECEMBER 14, 1986

## BRUINS SWEEP QUEBEC, 6-2

By Francis Rosa, The Boston Globe

QUEBEC - La Belle Province indeed. Rarely have the Bruins come out of Quebec with a weekend like this one, two victories and sole possession of first place. Can things get any better?

Sure they can. The Bruins have a chance to reach an objective they have quietly set for themselves. Actually, it's two objectives; one follows the other:

Be undefeated in December at Christmas. Be undefeated for the entire month of December.

After this weekend, they can be counting.

Last night they followed up Saturday's 4-2 victory in Montreal with a solid 6-2 conquest of the suddenly undermanned Quebec Nordiques. It was the Bruins' seventh straight victory (six this month), and coupled with Montreal's 4-2 loss to New Jersey, it left Boston atop the Adams Division alone.

"You look at the schedule and you see a game in Montreal Saturday, a bus ride after the game to Quebec and a game Sunday night and you know it's a tough weekend," said coach Terry O'Reilly. "Then to win both of them . . ." He shook his head.

This is the kind of thing on which successful teams thrive. And the Bruins are certainly thriving and succeeding.

December has been a coming-together month for the team. "We knew we had the talent," said Cam Neely, who scored the key insurance goal last night. "It was a matter of putting it together and getting confidence in ourselves. This is a little different feeling for me." He had played all his previous pro hockey in Vancouver where winning streaks are as rare as two days of sunshine.

"One of the goals we set for ourselves was to be undefeated this month," he said. And Ray Bourque said earlier in the week, "We could get to Christmas undefeated this month."

Last night, they made O'Reilly's return to the scene of his first victory a triumphant journey. And they were even more impressive than they were in that 5-1 victory. They started slowly, falling behind on a 65-foot shot, then turned to their special teams for a 2-1 first-period lead that went to 3-2 in the second, and finished it off with three goals in less than five minutes at the beginning of the third period.

"We had a tough game in Montreal," said Rick Middleton, who has responded to his new role with some terrific penalty killing, "and we were tired. It took us a little while to get our legs and to get into our tempo." Once they did, the game was almost no contest.

Goalie Doug Keans -- his undefeated string is now 8-0-2 -- "lost sight" of the puck on Gilbert Delorme's 65-footer from the right. It would be Quebec's only lead of the game. Reed Larson blasted a 45-footer for a game-tying power-play goal and then Thomas Gradin scored while Boston was shorthanded for a 2-1 lead. Gradin's goal, an easy tap into an open net, came off a rebound of a Greg Johnston shot.

In the second period, Tom McCarthy scored the first of his two backhanded goals for a 3-1 lead. This one should be clipped out and put in the highlight film. He sprinted to the front of the goal, beating defenseman Robert Picard to the puck, and chipped it under the crossbar.

The game wasn't quite at the point where it could be entered in the win column. Normand Rochefort put a 35-footer from the left circle into the net halfway through the period, and a minute later the Nordiques had a five-minute power play. The Bruins no sooner had killed that off than they caught a two-minute penalty 50 seconds later. It was more like playing shorthanded for eight minutes than seven. With Middleton and Steve Kasper playing as one pair and Gradin and Johnston as another, the Bruins blanked the Nordiques.

In the dressing room at the end of the second period, O'Reilly told them, "We can't be satisfied with 3-2," so, as Neely related, "we wanted to get the insurance goal quickly." Neely got it. He hit a 12-footer from the slot that went between goalie Clint Malarchuk's legs.

Then Keith Crowder scored the clincher, jamming a rebound of a Charlie Simmer shot off a Larson rebound, on a power play, into the goal. McCarthy put the game safely away with his 14th goal, another backhander. This time he came across the right circle, waited until some bodies gathered in front of Malarchuk and put a backhander into the net.

"We were motivated to finish off the weekend the way we could," said O'Reilly.

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DECEMBER 13, 1962

## CELTICS SURGE IN THIRD PERIOD TO TIP PISTONS

By Jack Barry, The Boston Globe

PROVIDENCE - The Celtics turned back the Detroit Pistons, 103 to 93 Thursday night at the Auditorium as Johnny Egan, ex-Providence College star was honored by the Rhode Island K. of C.

A crowd of 4284 was on hand to pay homage to Egan, who played 24 minutes and scored only two points. He appeared off on his shooting due to inactivity. Egan had not seen much action in recent Pistons' games.

The Detroit club, winners of seven of its last nine games, gave the early-game lackadaisical world champions a run for their money through the first half, leading 45 to 44, but an 18-6 Boston surge half-way through the third stanza turned the tide.

Tommy Heinsohn was the Celtics high scorer with 26 points. Bill Russell bossed the backboards over the second half, taking 23 rebounds in all and hitting seven baskets on 12 from the floor.

Bob Cousy, scoreless from the floor over the first half, wound up with seven baskets, making four long push shots against Egan in the third period.

John Havlicek again exhibited sound floor play, aiding in throwing the Pistons' offense off key, as the Detroit club lost possession 22 times. Boston gave up the ball on 14 occasions.

Boston took a 79 to 69 lead into the final period. The Pistons threatened briefly but Heinsohn, K.C. and Sam Jones, breaking fast, with Russell dominating the boards, racked 12 Boston points, and the Celtics were in front, 95 to 87, with three minutes to go.

Willie Jones got hot for the Pistons and Coach Red Auerbach rushed Heinsohn and Cousy back into action. Cousy hit from the side and Heinsohn went through the key for a couple of insurance baskets and the Celtics held their advantage to the end.

Boston plays Cincinnati at the Garden Saturday night at 8 o'clock.

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JANUARY 7, 1982

## CELTICS REPLAY WOUNDED KNEE, 96-90

Late Surge Gives Boston Win Over Depleted  
76ers

By Bob Ryan, The Boston Globe

This may have been one for the standings, but it certainly was not one for the heart. Defeating Philadelphia without Andrew Toney (sprained ankle) and with Darryl Dawkins playing 11 painful minutes (tendinitis of the left knee) is about as satisfying

as beating Farrah Fawcett in an acting contest.

Nevertheless, the Celtics are now just a half-game out of first place.

And, hey, it wasn't even a blowout. In fact, with 52 seconds left the 76ers were only down by four points. But Cedric Maxwell tossed in two foul shots 20 seconds later and Tiny Archibald hauled in the needed rebound of a Julius Erving miss and the Celtics were able to stagger off the Garden floor with a shaky 96-90 triumph last night. The Celtics hadn't won; they had merely not lost, and there is a heluva difference.

Not that any of the Celtics were planning on phoning Larry O'Brien and asking him to disregard the result.

"I'm not going to stand here and say the 76ers are a better team without Dawkins and Toney," admitted Bill Fitch. "Those two give them extra dimensions. But we've beaten them with those two in the lineup, and we've beaten them a lot easier than we did tonight."

Nobody is going to argue with that statement. The truth is that with the Celtics playing in such sloppy fashion these days, having the 76ers come to Boston for their eighth road game in their last nine games was a poor handicap.

The game was guaranteed to be a real tooth-puller after the Celtics scored a delightful 11 (eleven) points in the second quarter, an endless affair in which there was an 18-minute delay while referee Jack Madden went to the locker room to be treated for a pulled right hamstring muscle.

The veteran official, whose mailbox is seldom overflowing with Christmas cards from folks in the 617 area code (or 413, 203, 401 or 603, for that matter), worked the remainder of the game from foul line to foul line, while partner Mike Mathis raced from endline to endline. As far as Fitch was concerned, things worked out pretty well.

"Mathis did an excellent job," Fitch contended. "He was consistent with his calls underneath."

Anyway, the 11-point Boston second quarter (of course, this was the low quarter of the season), resulted in a 41-37 halftime lead for the Sixers, who had to feel good about their position during intermission. After all, any team that can commit seven turnovers in one stretch of 3:21 and only lose two points on the scoreboard (from 34-30 to 34-32) has to feel that the hoop God is smiling benevolently on them this particular evening.

A strong Tiny Archibald drive had enabled the Celtics to enter the final period leading by a 66-64 score. Four quick Steve Mix points sandwiched around a Maxwell (20 points, 11 rebounds) jump hook, left the clubs tied at 68 with 10:33 remaining. This would be the 76er summit, for once Gerry Henderson banked home the basket half of a three-point play, the Celtics were launched on what would be a game-deciding 22-10 spurt.

Included in the run were four consecutive baskets by Larry Bird, who prior to banking home a 20-footer at the 9:21 mark (75-72) had missed 10 straight shots and was 2-for-16 (as well as 0-for-outside) on the evening. Bird would shoot 4-for-4 in one key stretch of 3:24 (three jumpers and a driving dunk), culminating with 5:58 left that gave the Celtics an 85-77 lead.

"I really didn't get upset about his missing," said Fitch, "or even realize he was missing that much, because he was taking shots I'd want him to take. In the Chicago game he took some bad shots. But when he's doing that - facing the hoop and taking goos shots - I'll bet my life that he'll come off all right."

Abetting Bird in the big burst was Henderson, who followed his initial three-pointer with a tough baseline drive and two jumpers as he and Bird combined to score 17 of Boston's first 23 points in the last quarter. The Sixers, meanwhile, were going

scoreless from the floor for 6:26 in between an Erving jumper at 8:47 (75-74) and a Maurice Cheeks foul-line jumper at 2:21 (92-85), surviving by virtue of nine free throws in 12 attempts during that stretch.

Trailing by a 94-85 score with 1:59 left, Philly kept scrapping, coming within six on an Erving three-pointer (94-88) and finally within four on two foul shots by Caldwell Jones with 52 seconds to play. But Maxwell, whose third period offensive rebounding (six points off the glass) had sparked one Boston surge, sank the needed free throws to relieve the pressure.

Rebounding was a big Boston edge, as the Celtics piled up a 65-42 edge on the boards, led by Robert Parish's 20 retrieves. Take away half of the 25 second-chance points the Celtics had and they would have been a big trouble.

Let's face it: the game was ugly, and those who paid scalper's fees for this one were the losers.

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JULY 20, 1969

## **RED SOX DOWN ORIOLES 3D STRAIGHT, 6-5**

### **Trail Leaders by 11 Games, But Williams Sees Flag Hope**

**By Bob Sales, The Boston Globe**

The Red Sox beat the Orioles, 6-5, for the third straight time at Fenway Park yesterday, giving folk throughout New England a euphoric feeling.

"It would take a helluva hot streak to catch them," admitted Dick Williams, manager of the Red Sox. "But I think we're capable of it. I think Detroit's capable of it. Sure, we've only got four games left with them. But we've got 66 left for the year, which is a helluva lot."

The Orioles also have an 11-game lead over the Red Sox, in second place, which is a helluva lot, too. Frank Robinson, the Orioles' star right fielder, took realistic notice of this.

"It's possible that someone can catch us," he said. "But I don't think they will. That would take almost complete bcollapse."

Robinson does not envision that happening. He pointed out that this was only the second time this season the Orioles had dropped three in a row, the first time to the same team.

"We've been playing such good ball," said Robinson. "You know you can't keep it up all season. You've got to run into a slump like this. You think about it, we could have won all three games. We've also won games we could have lost, a lot more."

The American League has been waiting for the Orioles to descend from orbit at the top of the league's Eastern Division, Williams was hoping this was a start.

"They've got two days to think about it," said Williams, referring to the All-Star Game break, starting today. "Sure, they're all pros. But I've got to think positive. I've got to hope this dos shake them up."

Robinson was suggesting that the euphoria was a bad trip, which is probably correct. But the Red Sox played this game as if

it really meant something.

They scored a run off Mike Cuellar in the third on two singles and two walks, the final one to Carl Yastrzemski on a 3-2 pitch, forcing in a run.

Tony Conigliaro walked starting the fourth, was picked off and knocked the ball loose, then slid hard into second baseman Don Buford, breaking up a double play. Russ Gibson looped a double to right to knock in a run.

Syd O'Brien's fourth home run of the season, onto the ledge over the scoreboard, in the fifth accounted for the Red Sox' third run.

The Sox scored their final three runs in the eighth. The first came in on Jim Lonborg's checked swing sacrifice fly to right as Conigliaro slide past catcher Elrod Hendricks' diving tag and touched the plate with his left hand and O'Brien tripled in two more.

Winning pitcher Ray Culp allowed a run in the fifth after the bottom third of the Orioles' order loaded the bases with none out.

Vicente Romo started the sixth and left with the bases loaded and two out. Lefthander Bill Landis came on to pitch to righthanded pinch-hitter Curt Motton, who was batting for pinch-hitter Dave May. This brought Oriole manager Earl Weaver storming out of the dugout, swearing that he had not acknowledged that May, a lefty hitter, was in the game. Plate umpire Marty Springstead disagreed.

Motton walked, forcing in a run. Landis got Buford to bounce out to end the inning, and Lonborg started the seventh.

Lonborg was impeccable until the ninth, which he started by walking Mark Belanger and pinch-hitter Clay Dalrymple. Buford doubled in a run, and Ray Jarvis replaced Lonborg.

Jarvis, a righty, got two outs on Paul Blair and Frank Robinson, a run scoring. Then Sparky Lyle, a lefty, came in to pitch to lefthander Boog Powell, who singled on a 3-2 pitch to drive in the Orioles' fifth run. Brooks Robinson bounced out to end the game.

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JUNE 13, 1985

## RED SOX GANG UP ON BLUE JAYS, 8-7

By Larry Whiteside, The Boston Globe

Rich Gedman's two-run double keyed a four-run uprising in the seventh inning that carried the Red Sox to an 8-7 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays last night at Fenway Park.

The Blue Jays in recent years have given the Red Sox more than their share of grief. Toronto won the series last year, 8-4, and came to town as the first-place club in the American League East.

Boston jumped ahead, 2-0, in the first inning at the expense of Luis Leal, the one-time Red Sox farmhand. Steve Lyons set the tone for the inning, dropping a drag bunt on the first pitch and sliding safely into first for a single. He moved to third on a base hit to left by Wade Boggs and scored on a single past short by Jim Rice.

Boggs motored to third on Rice's hit, and when center fielder Lloyd Moseby muffed the pickup for an error, Rice wound up on second. Boggs made it home on a sacrifice fly by Bill Buckner. But then Leal stiffened and struck out Mike Easler

and Dwight Evans.

Sox starter Bruce Kison had been extra tough against the Orioles in his last outing, a 2-1 victory. In the second inning, the Blue Jays made a bid. George Bell opened the inning with a blooper over Boggs' head at third, and moved to third on a double by designated hitter Len Matuszak. Toronto made it a 2-1 game as Ernie Whitt grounded to first, with Kison covering. But then the Sox right-hander bore down, striking out Jesse Barfield and, after a walk to Tony Fernandez, getting Damaso Garcia to hit into a forceout at second.

Kison had another scare in the fourth inning when Matuszak and Whitt led off with singles, putting runners on first and third. But he retired the next three batters.

Kison's magic vanished in the fifth inning when he was rocked for five runs, and Toronto sprinted to a 6-2 lead. His troubles began with a triple off the wall by Moseby with one out. Lyons showed his inexperience with the wall on the play, and Rice was fortunate to be in the right spot, or Moseby would have circled the bases. Kison then lost the key battle of the inning, walking Willie Upshaw on a 3-2 pitch.

George Bell followed with a sacrifice fly to left, scoring Moseby, with Upshaw moving to second on the throw home. The ball was actually in foul territory when Rice caught it, and by the time he bounced off the wall, it was too late to throw out Moseby.

Kison then gave up a run-scoring double off the wall to Matuszak that gave Toronto 3-2 lead. Matuszak scored on a double by Whitt, and it became a 5-2 game on a base hit to right-center by Jesse Barfield, who ended an 0-13 slump. Barfield took second on the throw home, and when Tony Fernandez followed with a single, the Blue Jays had a 6-2 lead and Kison was on his way to the showers. Mike Trujillo got Garcia to ground out.

But the Sox didn't give up. In fact, only two batters into the fifth inning, Leal had given up two runs and was on his way to the showers. Lyons opened the inning with his second hit, a single, and went to second on a balk. Boggs ended Leal's night by pulling a 3-2 pitch into the visitor's bullpen for only his second home run of the year. Ahead, 6-4, Toronto manager Bobby Cox brought in right-hander Ron Musselman.

Musselman got off to a rough start. He walked Rice and then failed to cover first base on a grounder to second by Buckner, that went as a single. But he was plenty tough after that, getting Easler to hit into a 6-4 double play and then getting Evans to ground to short.

Trujillo did his job in the sixth and seventh innings, keeping the Blue Jays off the scoreboard. Moseby singled with one out in the sixth and went to second on a throwing error by the pitcher. But he could advance no further as Trujillo, after walking Upshaw, got Bell to ground into a forceout and Matuszak to ground to third, despite interference by umpire Jerry Neudecker who got in the way of Boggs making the play. Trujillo gave up two singles in the seventh but no runs.

Boston forced Toronto to use its much vaunted bullpen in the bottom of the seventh inning, as the Red Sox bats came alive to take the lead for the second time, 8-6.

Musselman left after giving up a walk to Boggs. Dennis Lamp took his place and immediately gave up a run-scoring double to the gap in left-center to Rice. Again Cox went to his bullpen, bringing in left-hander Gary Lavelle to face Buckner and Easler. Buckner grounded to short, with Rice going to third. Easler also grounded out, with Garcia making a catlike move at second, knocking the ball down with his bare hand and then throwing out the runner. Rice stayed at third.

A semi-intentional walk to Evans, however, backfired on the Blue Jays. Rich Gedman followed with a double up the gap in left-center, scoring Rice and Evans, and Boston had a 7-6 lead. Bill Caudill replaced Lavelle. Up stepped Marty Barrett, who punched a single to right, scoring Gedman.

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OCTOBER 30, 1966

## **PATRIOTS TAKE FIRST PLACE, NANCE SETS 4 RECORDS**

**By Will McDonough, The Boston Globe**

Jim Nance was walking slowly off the field slightly tilted to the left.

"What's wrong," asked quarterback Tom Yewcic, who was handling the sideline phones.

"My left shoulder is sore," Nance answered before adding quickly when he saw fear spread across Yawcic's face - "but I've still got the right one left."

Jim Nance's shoulder was sore for two reasons.

First, he was in the process of carrying a football 38 times in a professional game - equalling an all-time record for both the AFL and NFL.

Also he set tree Patriots' records - single-game and season rushing (753 yards) marks as well as the team's touchdowns-by-rushing mark (he has 8) for a season.

Secondly, it must have been sore from personally carrying the Patriots to a 24 to 21 victory over the Oakland Raiders and into first place in the Eastern Division.

The Patriot victory before 26,941 in Fenway Park Sunday afternoon advanced them to the top of the standings because the New York Jets were being beaten by the Buffalo Bills 33 to 23 at the same time.

Therefore, the Patriots jumped into a half-game lead over the faltering Jets, who have lost three in a row.

Nance, in his finest game ever, had a record-making day as the Patriots blew out to a big lead early and then had to sweat out a spirited rally by the Raiders in the fourth quarter.

Big Jim, a 232-pound menace, had 208 yards rushing on the afternoon for two touchdowns and every Patriot team rushing record in the books.

However, while Jim was personally dismantling the Oakland rushing defense, the Raiders' talented fullback, Clem Daniels, was putting on a show of his own.

Daniels scored all three Oakland touchdowns and made a contest of it in the final quarter with a brilliant individual performance.

As it turned out, though, Nance had been there too early and too often for Daniels to overcome.

Nance combined with Gino Cappelletti to jet the Patriots to a 14 to 0 lead in the first period.

In the first quarter alone, Nance racked up 117 yards rushing.

The first time he carried, Nance cracked 16 yards up the middle and the show was on. Three more thrusts and he had the ball to the Oakland 36 from where Babe pitched to Jimmy Whalen for 33 yards to the Raiders' three.

Babe three just 11 times in the game, tying an all-time A.F.L. low for one game.

The reason was that Nance running the way he was, Parilli didn't feel he had to throw. He completed only four for 67 yards, also an A.F.L. low.

Nance got the first score of the day with a two-yard burst at 6:16 of the first period, following the Whalen catch.

As the first period was nearing a close, the Patriots drove 92 for another score, with Larry Garron springing 54 yards to set this one up. The TD actually came on a 24-yard pass in the right corner from Parilli to Cappelletti.

"The ball was perfectly thrown," said Cappy. "It came right down through the defender's hands," said Gino, after outbattling cornerman Kent McCloughan for the ball.

Defensively, the Patriots were immovable until midway through the second period. By this time they had already knocked starting Oakland quarterback Tom Flores out of the game on a jarring double-team "scissors" by Bob Dee and Larry Eisenhauer.

Cotton Davidson came on to replace Flores and at 6:04 of the second quarter he pitched a dwing pass to Daniels. Daniels spun away from the first defender, burst through two more a little way up field, and sped away on a 51-yard touchdown play.

The Patriot lead was reduced now to 14 to 7, but they marched back with Nance rumbling 54 yards in the next sequence to set up a 15-yard field goal by Cappelletti, producing a 17 to 7 halftime margin.

Nance's 54-yard run in the drive was the longest of his Patriot career, and gave him 154 yards for the half, shattering the Patriot team one-game record of 140 yards set by Garron in 1963.

In the third period, Oakland adjusted it's defense for Nance. "We made too many mental mistakes against him in the first half," Oakland coach John Rauch admitted.

Nance, however, with Oakland deploying its linebackers in tight now to stop him, still managed to score the only TD of the third period on a one-yard bolt over left tackle at 13:44, making the count 24 to 7.

Oakland still wouldn't concede. Back came the Raiders to score two touchdowns in the first ten minutes of the final quarter. Daniels got them both, one on a 22-yard run, the other on a one-yard plunge.

Suddenly the lead was cut to three points 24 to 21 - with five minutes left. The Patriots were trying to run out the clock and never passed in the final quarter.

Oakland got the ball back with three minutes left and a chance to win, but safetyman Chuck Shonta settled things by intercepting a Davidson pass to wrap up the Pats' third straight victory.

Nance broke the A.F.L. record for the most rushing attempts in a single game. The old mark was 36 by Cookie Gilchrist in 1963.

In Gilchrist's performance, he set the A.F.L. record of 243 yards rushing in a game.

Nance left the field unaware that he had joined Harry Newman in immortality. Who's Harry Newman? Well he's the guy who held the all-time pro record for carries in a game with 38 for New York against Green Bay in 1934. Now he'll have to share the record. And what did ever become of Harry Newman?

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OCTOBER 29, 1978

# IT WAS A LAUGHER. . PATRIOTS 55, JETS 21

By Steve Marantz, The Boston Globe

FOXBORO - They played in a place beyond reality, a dimension of time and space where two lines intersect at the limits of the mind. Their world was spinning. They closed their eyes. The Patriots were in the Twilight Zone.

Or so it seemed for three quarters of a 55-21 victory over the New York Jets before 60,585 at Schaefer Stadium.

They painted a collage of offensive perfection, turning their first seven possessions into touchdowns. The receivers ran perfect routes and made perfect catches. The running backs found perfect holes made by perfect blocks.

Touchdown drive followed touchdown drive in dizzying succession until even the Patriots wondered what was happening.

"I couldn't tell you who scored or when or in what order," said Steve Grogan who completed 15 of 19 passes for 281 yards and four touchdowns and ran for 32 yards before giving way to Tom Owen in the third quarter. It was the first time in 30 straight regular-season games that Grogan hadn't played a complete game.

In turn, the scoring was done by Harold Jackson, Stanley Morgan, Horace Ivory, Ivory again, Jackson again, Russ Francis, and James McAllister. On the eighth possession McAllister fumbled and ended the streak. The record for scoring on consecutive possessions wasn't immediately available, but the Patriots knew at day's end they had broken or tied six club offensive records.

The magnitude of their offensive accomplishments left the Patriots groping for explanations, but perhaps the only explanation was that there wasn't one.

"There are some things you just can't explain," said Grogan. "Some days everything falls into place."

Patriots coach Chuck Fairbanks thought the Jets were overplaying the run, leaving the pass coverage vulnerable. Jackson, the wide receiver who caught five passes for 118 yards, was surprised the Jets allowed their defensive backs to twist slowly in the wind on man-to-man coverage.

Jets head coach Walt Michaels insisted the Patriots hadn't done anything to surprise his team. "They just did it (the expected) harder," said Michaels.

If the Jets weren't caught off guard, then they were guilty of underestimating the offensive versatility of the Patriots, seen yesterday in full flower for the first time this season.

Grogan used his three top receivers, Jackson, Morgan and Francis, called on Sam Cunningham for some inside running and a couple of screen passes, and used the weapon of his own feet early and without hesitation.

"I don't think we can play much better on offense," said Grogan. "Even things like the inside runs. You don't expect to get big yardage on inside but we got it."

Cunningham in the first half and Don Calhoun in the second half were hitting the holes. For the first time in four weeks, the two weren't rotating downs and series. "Sam had the hot hand in the first half and we decided to stay with him," said Fairbanks.

Twelve minutes into the game the Patriots led, 21-0, and it was already "out the window," as Ray Hamilton put it. With 28 seconds left in the second quarter it was 41-7. Dave Posey, no

doubt with a rapidly tiring leg, missed the extra point on the fifth touchdown.

A seventh touchdown came on an 88-yard drive on the Patriots' only third-quarter possession, and an eighth followed Mike Haynes' interception return to the Jets' 1 in the fourth quarter.

Nobody was suggesting that the patriots were running up the score, but neither was it suggested they felt guilty about their largesse.

"The offense loved it," said Hamilton, the noseguard. "That's what they get paid for, after all."

Steve Zabel, the linebacker who played a few downs at tight end after Don Hasselbeck was ejected for fighting, said he enjoyed being part of the offense.

"We didn't intentionally try to rub anybody's nose in it," said Zabel. "It just happened."

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